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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 014137-008020US
Epimmune Ref. 100/80.2

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By [Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sette et al.

Application No.: 08/452,843

Filed: 5/30/95

For: HLA BINDING PEPTIDES AND
THEIR USES

Examiner: T. Cunningham

Art Unit: 1816

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants submit the following in supplemental response to the Office Action mailed December 18, 1997 and to the Action mailed September 14, 1998. In the September 14 Action, the Examiner indicated that the previous response mailed June 18, 1998 was not responsive to the Office Action because the sequence identified in the response (MPLETQLAI) did not fall within the election of a submotif of Xaa Pro Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Met (Group I, in the Restriction Requirement mailed September 9, 1997). After a telephone interview with the Examiner and Margaret Parr on February 20, 1998, applicants had successfully traversed this requirement. Applicants had understood that the effect of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement was that all claims would be examined in this application and no further species election would be required. As evident from the September 14 Action, however, the Examiner had intended that the restriction be treated as a species election.



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Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesies extended by the Examiner in the telephone interview, today, October 14, to discuss this species election. In the interview, the Examiner indicated that if applicants elected a different species that comported with the sequence identified above, the previous response would be considered as responsive. Thus, in light of the telephone interview, applicants hereby elect species II, identified in the Restriction Requirement (Xaa Pro Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ile). Thus, the sequence identified above now comports with the elected species of submotif.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (415) 576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


Kevin L. Bastian
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